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Institution of Washington.
Director Frederic A. Lucas, of The American Museum of Natural History.

The income from this gift to the academy will be sufficient to award the first medal and honorarium at the April meeting, 1918. Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn has been designated by the president of the academy to act as chairman.

WESTERN AGRONOMIC WORKERS

THE second annual meeting of western agronomic workers will be held at the Washington State Agricultural College, Pullman, Washington, and the University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho (only nine miles apart), on July 31 and August 1 and 2, inclusive. The geographic scope of the gathering is the eleven western states occupying the territory from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean.

The following topics will be discussed during the session:

1. Where and to what extent is it possible to eliminate summer fallow?
2. Rotation systems for irrigation sections.
3. Rotation systems for coast and intermediate sections.
4. Rotation systems for dry land.
5. Organic matter and nitrogen content of soil as affected by cropping systems.
6. Irrigation and alkali studies.
7. Methods and organization for supplying and distributing superior seed.
8. Possible extended use of new crops and the production of crops in the United States formerly supplied from other countries.
9. Cooperation among the states for investigating new problems.
10. The practical application of our investigations.
11. Better marketing, a factor for increasing food supply.
12. Collegiate courses in agronomy.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Albert medal of the Royal Society of Arts for the current year has been awarded to Orville Wright, "in recognition of the value of the contributions of Wilbur and Orville Wright to the solution of the problem of me-

chanical flight." The report of the council says: "The largest share in the honor of having invented the aeroplane must always be given to the two brothers, Wilbur and Orville Wright."

M. LECLAINCHE has been elected a member of the section of agriculture of the Paris Academy of Sciences, to succeed M. Chauveau.

DR. WILLIAM J. MAYO, of Rochester, Minn., has been summoned to Washington to confer with the government officials relative to the formation of a central medical staff in Washington, the purpose of which will be to obtain the best medical service for American soldiers while in the field.

DEWELL GANN, JR., of the medical department of the University of Arkansas, secretary of the Arkansas Academy of Sciences, has been commissioned a first lieutenant in the Officers' Reserve Corps, and expects assignment to a medical unit in France.

MR. BARRINGTON MOORE, associate curator of woods and forestry in the American Museum of Natural History, has gone to France to give his services in a forestry regiment.

PROFESSOR ELIOT BLACKWELDER, of the University of Illinois, is at present in California as a geological member of an advisory commission appointed by the governor of California to investigate the petroleum resources of the state.

MR. KARL P. SCHMIDT, assistant in herpetology in the American Museum of Natural History, has been appointed a member of the New York State Food Commission.

THE *Geographical Review* gives information concerning field work by botanists as follows: Professor F. E. Clements, who has accepted a position in the department of botanical research of the Carnegie Institution, is in the west and will devote the summer largely to grazing problems in connection with the national emergency. Incidentally he hopes to complete the task of securing material for a monograph he is planning to write on the bad lands. Dr. O. E. Jennings, of the Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh, is spending the summer in botanical exploration and collecting

along the eastern shore of Lake Nipigon, the large lake in Ontario immediately north of Lake, some sixty miles distant. Mr. Thomas H. Lake, some sixty miles distant. Mr. Thomas H. Kearney, of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, is planning in cooperation with Dr. H. L. Shantz, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the studies of native vegetation as an indicator of the agricultural capabilities of land in the western states which have been in progress during the past five or six years.

PROFESSOR LAWRENCE MARTIN, of the University of Wisconsin, gave instruction in topography at the Officers Training Camp, Fort Sheridan, Ill., during the last part of June and first part of July.

DR. HUGH McGUIGAN, professor of pharmacology in the Northwestern University, recently delivered an address on "Blood Sugar in relation to Diabetes" before the faculty and students of the graduate summer quarter in medicine of the University of Illinois.

THE first appointment to one of the new Logan fellowships at the University of Chicago has been made to Professor Walter George Sackett, of the Agricultural Experimental Station, Fort Collins, Colorado, for the academic year 1917-18. These fellowships were recently endowed by Mr. and Mrs. Frank G. Logan, of Chicago, for research in experimental medicine for the purpose of discovering new methods and means of preventing and curing disease.

THE Council of the University of Leeds has conferred upon Colonel de Burgh Birch, C.B., late professor of physiology and dean of the faculty of medicine, the title of emeritus professor.

SIR COOPER PERRY, physician at, and superintendent of, Guy's Hospital, has been elected to the office of vice-chancellor of the University of London for the year 1917-18, in succession to Sir Alfred Pearce Gould.

SIR NAPIER SHAW, director of the British Meteorological Office, has been appointed Halley lecturer for 1918, at Oxford.

THE death is announced of H. Van Laer, professor of chemistry at Mons, and president of the Chemical Society of Belgium.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

At the meeting of the board of regents of the University of Texas, held on July 12 and 13, President Vinson was continued as head of the institution, though without formal action to that effect on the part of the board. The following members of the faculty were dropped: Professors L. M. Keasbey, W. H. Mayes, W. T. Mather and A. Caswell Ellis, and the secretary of the university, John A. Lomax. Of these most had been previously mentioned as slated for dismissal by the governor, but Professor Keasbey was charged with disloyal utterances at the recent pacifist meeting in Chicago. The governor has not indicated any method by which the funds for the maintenance of the university may be secured, but the regents are making plans, on a restricted program, to have the institution open for work in the autumn.

WE learn from *Nature* that the valuable collections of Arachnida, containing more than 1,000 types, with the library, notebooks, drawings and papers in connection therewith, bequeathed by the late Rev. O. Pickard-Cambridge, to the University of Oxford, have been deposited in the University Museum and placed in the charge of the Hope professor of zoology, Professor E. B. Poulton.

J. C. BRADLEY, of Cornell University, will spend next year as assistant professor of entomology at the University of California.

FRED W. PADGETT, who for the past four years has been research fellow in oil, gas and gasoline in the University of Pittsburgh, has been appointed associate professor of chemistry in the University of Oklahoma, where he will have charge of developing a research department in oil, gas and gasoline.

HARRY CLINTON GOSSARD, assistant professor of mathematics in the University of Oklahoma, has been appointed to a mathematical position in the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md.